entrust private sector with generation of hydro-electricity;

(b) if so, the response of the private sector thereto;

(c) whether any policy decision has been taken by Government in the matter; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (d) The policy encouraging private investment in power sector which was initiated in 1991 also permits private sector to set up hydro electric power projects. As on date expressions of interest have been received for setting up of 27 hydro-electric power project in private sector for a capacity addition of 4148 MW costing approx. Rs. 11763.00 crores.

Competitive bidding for Private Sector Projects

2816. SHRI BALBIR SINGH:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the projects for which competitive bids were invited from private sector/joint sector companies to put up power plants in the various States during the last 3 lyears and the date(s) of opening of such tenders;

(b) the names of the Projects for which orders have already been finalised, together with the names of the Companies and the date of placement of such Orders; and

(c) the projects for which orders have not yet been finalised and the reasons for delay in the finalisation of these orders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Demand for Counter Guarantee To US Power Comapnies

2817. SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry knows of any other country in the World which has an indigenous power equipment manufacturing base but does not provide any protection to its power equipment manufacturers; and

(b) whether it is a fact that US Energy Secretary pressed the case for counter guarantees to be given to US power companies during her recent visit to India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Ministry of Power does not have details of protection policies followed by other countries with regard to their power equipment manufacturers.

(b) The issue of counter-guarantee was mentioned by the US Energy Secretary during her discussions.

Offer by BHEL in Koyna Project

2818. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether BHEL was the lowest bidder in Koyna Project;

(b) whether the BHEL's quotation was construed by the prime consultant, CEA, as the best offer both from the commercial and technical standpoints;

(c) whether it is a fact that BHEL was declared non-responsive afterwards on the advice of Swiss review consultant; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor?